

## A New ROTBTD Story

by Huggle-Of-Doom

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Summary: A new threat faces the children of the world: Old enemies joining forces and the new team of heroes band together to try to stop them. A Rise of the Brave Tangled Dragons fanfiction. Seasons Guardians AU. Mericcup, Jackunzel, (possible Mave-ler or Norman/Coraline if I can fit them in) Title is subject to change. Also bringing in cameos of other characters from other movies.

### 1. Chapter 1 - A Crumbling Castle

**\*\*A New ROTBTD Story \*\***

Merida DunBroch sat on the highest remaining spires of the crumbling castle looking down on the people who were wandering around the remains of what she once called home. Her eyes darkened as a teenage boy kicked the replica throne that almost matched the original. That throne belonged to her mother, her eyes flared bright blue as she restrained the temptation to go down there and roast him. Merida wasn't an ordinary girl and she was hardly ordinary when she was still alive.

She sighed, her loose light blue and gold top slightly swaying in the breeze. Thinking either made her really calm or really angry but she couldn't help it; she was like this in life too, only until the source of her fate led her off a cliff and into the wild ocean almost 1000 years ago. The will of the wisps had chosen her to be their queen, that was her fate and she couldn't deny destiny now that she was part of it. She remembered when the Man in the Moon had called her; she had been buried next to the stone circle and thus, after awaking, found herself there.

She hadn't always been able to look like this: human, any way you looked at her, if anyone could see her that is. She used to be transparent, glowing blue and flicker between a fifteen centimeter tall sprite to a sixteen year old (at least in looks) girl with crazy

hair. But now once she had gotten everything under control, including her affinity with fire and warmth, she looked as she once did.

As the sun set below the horizon she looked up at the sky, only to see the moon glaring down at her. She was startled so much that she almost fell off the old brickwork. She glared up at the old man who, in turn, glared back down at her with a blinding light full of secret messages that only the spirits brought back could see.

"What dae ye want?" she started with a flaring temper.

The moon responded with more light flowing and dipping in brightness. \_Listen Merida, Spirit of Destiny and Queen of the Wisps.\_

"Yah, what?" Merida crossed her arms, visibly annoyed by the interruption of her private time.

\_You have been chosen.\_

"Th- Wha? Fa what?"

\_For the children.\_

At that moment a black shape crossed the sky, turned and landed in the now empty castle.

\* \* \*

><p>Hiccup jumped off Toothless and looked at the ruined castle around him; it was literally a dump aside from the cleared pedestrian walkways and a few areas where benches and signs stood. A man was just locking up at where the main door should have been, instead there was a black metal fence, but Hiccup wasn't worried about that, in fact he wouldn't have worried about it even if the man could see him.<p>

After glancing around for a moment and surveying his surroundings he stared back up at the moon, "Well isn't this place a fun-house." he exclaimed sarcastically, Toothless huffed in reply.

While he stood staring upwards he didn't notice the girl watching him from behind one of the crumbling pillars of rock, nor did he notice when she suddenly glowed blue, turned transparent then shrunk into the size of tennis ball.

"You should really explain yourself sometimes-", Hiccup was starting before he was cut off by a floating hunk of blue fire hovering right in front of his nose. He immediately ran backwards tripping over his own artificial foot and landing on his arse. Toothless came over and stared up at the fire, his throat emitting a low growl before nudging Hiccup back into a proper sitting position.

"Wh- wh- wh- What?" he stuttered shocked by the fire which seemed surreal and hypnotising at the same time.

He became even more shocked when the fire expanded and turned into the shape of a girl before solidifying to reveal a flaming head full of hair that bounce around in the moonlight. She seemed almost ethereal, with her hair floating about her like that, to Toothless however, she was like a threat.

The dragon stretched himself out to his full height and extended his wings casting a gigantic black shadow over almost half of the castle in the moonlight. Hiccup, however, still stared at the girl trying to work out who, or what, she was. The girl hardly flinched, and instead of running away just eyed the boy and his dragon as if sizing them up. Toothless glared at the girl, his green eyes narrowing to only slits as he attempted to scare her off.

"Oi, who- what are ye?" She finally said.

"You, you're not human." Hiccup stuttered in return.

"Nae, how long did it take ye to figure that one out, eh?"

\* \* \*

><p>The boy in front of her was extremely tall and lanky and when sprawled out in front of her she couldn't help thinking of a tangled up spider that got caught in his own legs. The boy wore a black jacket, a green shirt and brown pants; she guessed if he was hiding in the forest she probably wouldn't be able to see him at all. Merida was also intrigued by his dragon; it towered above her probably 2-3 meters into the air. She wasn't afraid though, she had faced larger things, Mor'du the Demon Bear being one of them (Mor'du the Prince's Spirit happily resided with her wisps in the woods and around his old castle).<p>

The boy finally spoke, calming himself and standing up, "I am Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third, Spirit of Knowledge, and this is my dragon, Toothless."

Merida snorted, and then cupped her hands over her mouth. "Really? That's yer name? And by the way, ye misnamed yer dragon; he has teeth, quite a lot actually."

"Not, really," Hiccup mumbled, "Who are you?"

"Ach, I'm sorry. M' name's Merida of DunBroch, an' I'm Queen of the Wisps."

At that moment thousands and thousands of little blue fires appeared behind her, Merida turned around and shooed them off, giving one of the wisps, Little Greta, a kiss on the forehead, before turning back and finally asking the question that she meant to ask from the beginning.

"What are ye doing here?"

0000ooooo..\_..oooo0000

\* \* \*

><p><strong>This story's going nowhere fast. :P Sorry, don't expect another chapter for a while (too much school).<strong>

\*\*By the way, this is my first FanFiction! ^w^ So please comment and tell me what you like (or don't like). Thank You!\*\*

\*\*If you can give me any ideas for pairings, or any ideas at all,

feel free to comment!\*\*

\*\*Jack and Punzie will probably pop up in the next chapter so hold on, okay?\*\*

## 2. Chapter 2 - The Adventure Begins

\*\*Chapter 2 â€" Adventure\*\*

"What are ye doing here?"

Hiccup had been bracing himself for this question, partially because he didn't quite know himself.

He had always been unsure of himself; the day he met Toothless he was unsure, the day he asked Astrid out he was unsure, almost every single time he had to make a choice he was unsure, the day that he and Toothless were shot and fell from the sky in a ball of fire, the day they woke up and nobody could see them, not even Astrid, and they instead chose to mourn a pile of ash, bone and leather. The day Hiccup realised that the pile of bones and ash used to be him. The day the moon told him that it wasn't a dream. The day he almost went mad. The billions of days wasted doing nothing. The day the moon called again for another adventure.

"That, uh, well."

"Well?"

"You know, I really don't know."

"Well that's helpful."

Merida crossed her arms and stared up at him, this went on an extra second than Hiccup would've liked before she lifted her eyes and stared up to the moon. Hiccup let out a breath that he didn't know he was holding and shut his eyes for a second; he reopened them only to meet shining blue ones almost blinding him. He breathed in sharply and took half a step backwards, tripping over Toothless (who had been observing and deciding that a great dragon like himself might be warming up to the fire-headed girl) and landing on his bum for the second time that day.

Merida let out a few puffs of hearty laughter before meeting Hiccups eyes again. "Well, Hiccup, I hope ye wouldn't mind setting out on an adventure."

"Of- of course not!" Hiccup stuttered.

"Well then, we're going to tha' big city!"

\* \* \*

><p>Rapunzel strolled around Corona, it was now a bustling city full of skyscrapers and tightly packed buildings although, in the centre of the metropolis was an old castle beautifully preserved and once her home. She remembered the place as peaceful and beautiful, a place where she lived happily with her parents and her newly wed husband. She had thought that all of the rest of their days would be spent

happily like this until the revolution started and the people of the outskirts and the forest had turned on Corona. They managed to rally a gigantic force on their side that outnumbered that of the palace, the soldiers that had any sense changed sides and anyone who didn't was slaughtered. The day Corona fell was also the day they murdered the royal family, by hanging. The execution was in the middle of the town square on top of the place that once had been a gathering area. Rapunzel generally avoided that place now.<p>

She continued walking, going everywhere in her kingdom except the town square. She twirled a piece of her short brown hair in her fingers and brightened the flowers with her other hand. This was her job, to walk and make the flowers amazingly beautiful just as she made the lives of those who knew her beautiful and just as she planned to make the lives of anyone who could see her as enchanting as she tried to make the flowers.

Rapunzel walked around the corner and, without warning, collided with someone. It wasn't that the boy had no shoes or because he had brilliant white hair that had shocked her but the fact that she actually touched him at all. The boy with white hair looked equally as shocked but gathered himself more quickly than Rapunzel did. She didn't move, hoping that it was only a coincidence and that he would walk straight past like everyone else did, but he just stared at her.

When they finally spoke again they did so at the exact same time both asking how the other could see them.

Rapunzel stuttered at first but then gathered herself and tried her hardest to remain polite and not freaking out. "N- no, you go first."

He smiled a bright smile, which was ironic because he looked so cold, "Jack Frost at your service."

"F- F- Frost?" Rapunzel stuttered even more. She'd heard about this guy, she heard that he was a prankster spirit, that he helped save the children of the world from the Bogey Man and that he was a spirit of winter. But winter never came to Corona.

"How are you here?" She squeaked holding a fist out as if she were clutching a frying pan before realising it had rotted ages ago and pulling her arm back.

"I flew?"

"You fly?!"

"Yeah." and to prove it Jack jumped into the air and stayed there.

"Oh. Well then, Jack, I suppose you want my name now." Rapunzel said gathering the courage and folding her arms across her chest.

"If you want."

"Rapunzel of Corona."

"Soâ€¦ Punzie?"

"Wha?" Rapunzel's jaw dropped and Jack did a backflip in the air. No one had ever given her a nickname. No one except Eugene. Her face fell and Jack stopped spinning, he floated down and looked her in the eye.

"Hey. You alright?" he said, genuine concern in his voice.

Rapunzel coughed and looked up. "Yeah, I'm fine."

Jack looked sceptical but then he suddenly threw out his hand. Rapunzel looked at his hand, then up to his face, than back again trying to decide why he was doing this and whether or not to trust him.

He smiled, a sunny smile for someone affiliated with the cold, "Don't worry, we're going to the Pole!"

"What!" Rapunzel almost jumped for joy she had always wanted to go to see North but she was either always too busy or never had a way of getting there. "Why didn't you say so!"

Rapunzel took Jack's hand straight away and he immediately shot up into the air. Rapunzel screamed with excitement and Jack pulled her up so that he held her under the arms. She spread her arms out and imagined that she was flying also, she hadn't done anything close to flying (aside from jumping) for a long time, the last time she felt this way was when she was sliding down her own hair from her prison of eighteen years. But now she couldn't; her long blonde locks were long gone.

They were only flying for a couple of seconds before they collided with a gigantic black thing. It was rough to the touch and the collision sent both the winter sprite, the flower fae, the giant black thing and it's two passengers spiralling to the ground. One of the figures that seemed to be riding the giant black thing stretched out it's arm and grabbed Jack, who in turn grabbed Punzie and they were both hoisted onto the blackness. A few seconds before they would all collide with the ground two black wings emerged and slowed them so that they only softly collided with the ground in the middle of a forest.

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Kay so, here's the next chapter. Thanks to all of you who commented! Please do the same for this next one too!  
3<strong>

\*\*Well, yeah, so Jack and Punzie have arrived! And it'll probably be a little longer until Oncie shows up, just hold on a little longer!\*\*

\*\*If you have any ideas for the title please tell me (Cause at the moment it could use improvement =3= )\*\*

\*\*Thanks again!\*\*

### 3. Chapter 3 - Meeting the Team

### **\*\*Chapter 3 " Meeting the Team\*\***

Punzie didn't even have time to scream before she hit the ground, firstly because she was too amazed about what was happening, Jack on the other hand didn't stop screaming until his face hit the soft dirt.

As soon as the winter sprite regained himself and spat out the clumps of mud from his mouth he grabbed Rapunzel and hovered in the air a metre or two from the ground, waving his staff like a sword that would gallantly protect anyone. The two strangers helped each other up and brushed themselves off before turning to face the floating pair, the great black thing reared up behind them; looming and dark as night. The brunette squeaked; it was a dragon.

Jack stared at it in its bright green eyes, "Don't you dare come any closer!"

A sarcastic voice responded from the tall boy on the ground, "Don't worry, he can hit you from here." This earned a snort from the redhead.

Jack set Rapunzel on the ground, stalked forwards and pressed his staff to the boy's neck. "Who are you?"

"Gee, um, well I'm Hiccup and she's Merida."

Jack lowered his staff and looked from one to the other, Merida however found this a great opportunity to show off: As Jack looked to her for the first time she appeared normal, the second time she was blue and transparent. The third time Jack looked again to see whether he saw correctly or not she was a small blue flame-person and was headed straight for his head, she morphed again into a human and in another second had pulled out a bow and arrow from nowhere and had it pointed at his face.

Jack immediately flew backwards and landed next to Punzie, "Woah!"

"Now, it's my turn," said Merida triumphantly. "Who are you?"

Rapunzel walked right over to Merida and shook her hand. "My name's Rapunzel," she said cheerfully. "It's nice to meet you!"

This shocked Merida, she couldn't believe that Rapunzel could be extremely trustful of the people who she had just met. But that was just her character and it got her through the majority of her life.

Jack straightened his back and walked over as well, his trademark smile on his pale face. "Can you guess who I am?" he said.

"Ach, Mr Annoying?"

"No, but you're close," Jack said, smiling. "It's Frost, Jack Frost."

Hiccup spoke up again. "Oh, you, I've heard of you. What do you want?"

Jack was sent out by the guardians to find a team, this team would help with the upcoming battle that the Man in the Moon had predicted would happen in the near future. "Oh, I'm on a mission."

At this Rapunzel became curious and spoke up, "What for?"

"It's a secret mission."

Hiccup walked up behind Merida, now intrigued by the conversation, his dragon stalking up behind him. "What secret mission?"

"Oh nothing," he exclaimed. "Nothing at all."

"He's taking me to the North Pole!"

Everyone turned to look at the brunette girl whose hands were clasped together and a bright smile was plastered onto her face. Jack face palmed.

"Punzieeee. That was meant to be a secret."

Lowering his hand he smirked again, his plan was working.

\* \* \*

><p>A tall man watched the group from the edge of the forests outside Corona. He was friends with the brunette girl but was wary of the others; he would have approached but he didn't mostly because of the giant dragon that stood by the side of the group.<p>

Turning around, he retreated back in to his dark forest.

\* \* \*

><p>"So, where were you guys headed?"<p>

Hiccup stepped forwards to speak, "Oh, nowhere in particular. Just a few cities, adventuring."

"Yah," Merida interrupted. "First stop was the City of Flowers."

Rapunzel suddenly started blushing and fiddling with her hair. "I don't think that there's much interesting to see there."

"Really? Ah've heard that magic keeps the flowers bright."

"Oh, it's-"

"Yeah," Hiccup chimed in. "They say that winter never arrives there." Toothless grunted with approval in the background.

Jack almost laughed. "Oh, yeah, I never go near Corona," he said jokingly.

"I don't-"

"And the tourists claim that the sunshine there actually rejuvenates their health an' makes them feel younger!" Merida exclaimed.



"It does?"

Merida turned around to face the girl. "What? Ye've never been there?"

"Of course she's been there," Jack said. "I found her there, brightening the flowers actually."

"Oh, ye are the magic? Well done."

Rapunzel smiled and thanked Merida for acknowledging her, none of the humans ever did. Even though everyone could see the beauty around them the citizens of Corona all ignored it and took it for granted.

The small group once again arrived on the topic of destinations, Jack had a secret mission to complete, but he did say he needed four helpers: Rapunzel, Merida, Hiccup and Toothless. Merida and Hiccup decided that they had nothing better to be doing; the 'adventure' after all was just an excuse to tour like the tourists did according to the red head. They set off behind Jack, or in Punzie's case; in Jack's arms, in the direction of the North Pole.

They all wondered why they hadn't done this before; maybe because they hadn't thought of it before, maybe because they were content with their life (or their non-life) or maybe because something was keeping them from adventuring, something that held them back subconsciously.

The moon stared down at the four travellers as they continued their new story.

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Ooh, and the adventure begins...<strong>

\*\*Guess who the tall man is! :D Exited!\*\*

\*\*Anyway reply like you do always! Thanks!\*\*

#### 4. Chapter 4 - Dancing from Danger

\*\*Hi there! Thanks to all of you who have reviewed or favourited or watched this story. And I am so sorry it took this long, I've been really busy. Anywho! Warning: This is kinda a fluffy chapter.  
w\*\*

\*\*Disclaimer: I don't own anything. Sadly.\*\*

\* \* \*

><p><strong><span>Chapter 4 â€" Dancing from Danger<span>\*\*

The little blue flame hopped around on Toothless' back. She jumped from scale to scale and when Hiccup looked closer it reminded him of a traditional dance that visiting travellers to his village once did when he was alive. He vaguely remembered the song that went with it, only because he was forced to sing along with the rest of the

tribe.

As Merida moved onto another scale he began to hum. The little queen was startled at first from the sudden noise from the previously quiet boy. Recently the only other noises were the wind whistling by as they flew at top speed, Rapunzel pointing out every second thing that they flew over and Jack complaining loudly about Santa not letting him use a portal. After another second the wisp started again; hopping and twirling, floating and jumping in time with Hiccup's humming and the tapping of his left hand.

Step, step, jump, hop, step, twirl, step. The flame's movements could almost be called hypnosis, the dragon rider could certainly call it so; the only things he was focusing on the moment were the movements of the tiny flame and the breathing of his dragon. He hardly noticed the weather changing and becoming colder (possibly because he felt so warm from the dancing flame and the body heat of Toothless).

Suddenly the Night Fury landed on the snow, Jack and Punzie before him. Hiccup, who wasn't paying any attention, got jolted right out of the saddle, over Merida and Toothless and into the freezing snow. As the Viking regained himself and pulled himself upright again he was met with laughter from every one of his companions, including Merida who had just popped back to her full size and even Toothless who was making huffing sounds, almost if he were laughing. Hiccup stood up and brushed himself off.

"That was extremely graceful." Merida said between chortles.

\* \* \*

><p>Punzie looked up at the collection of buildings on the edge of an icy cliff. they were placed very precariously on the edge and were covered with icicles. She pointed upwards.<p>

"Is that where we're headed?"

Jack hovered again in mid-air his eyes following her outstretched finger. He smiled, "That's it!" He landed next to Rapunzel and took her hand; his hands were, as fitting to his name, as cold as frost. As they flew toward the buildings on the cliff she peered over her shoulder she saw Merida morphing and teleporting to the top of the cliff where she morphed back and waved at them. She heard Hiccup grumbling and saw a black shape zooming past.

Jack sped up, "Hey! You can't leave us behind!"

Hiccup kept focused straight ahead and Merida's arms were waving like crazy.

Jack now flew alongside Hiccup, "Oi, Hic, is this a race?"

Hiccup turned to glare at the frost spirit, "Only to get away from those." He jerked his thumb over his shoulder. Jack and Rapunzel looked behind, only to see what Merida was panicking about and what Hiccup was try to get away from. A giant cloud of black dust was flying towards them, the particles sparkling in the setting sun.

Jack swore, (a word Rapunzel had rarely heard for the City of Flowers was always filled with content, happy people,) and turned back forward. The three spirits flew as fast as they could towards the now open door of North's workshop, the mass of black sand swelling behind them. They all entered through the giant oak doors at the same time; a flurry of scaly wings, snow, frost, flowers and blue flame.

The doors slammed shut behind them encasing the four in darkness. The only sound was the strange thumping noises that the black particles made against the oak and the large furry, yet friendly, creatures clambering over their work to help hold the door shut.

They all listened for a couple of seconds after the thumping had stopped and when Rapunzel was certain that they were as safe as they could possibly be she fell to her knees and stared up at the strange place that she was in. It was high-domed and everywhere you looked there were toys, the other three (and the dragon) had tumbled in with her and they were all either sprawled on the floor (which was mainly just Hiccup) or staring at the place around them.

Jack stood up first and instantly jumped to the second level in a gust of wind. He disappeared from her sight for a moment before popping back again followed by a gigantic man; he was larger than any other man the Rapunzel had seen and so she was shocked, Merida and Hiccup however were not phased and when Punzie pointed out the man (and his largeness) the two just shrugged.

The elevator clicked and the large man walked out followed by Jack, as soon as the man walked out he smiled, a gigantic warm smile and held his arms wide open.

"Welcome to North Pole!" he boomed.

\* \* \*

><p>Jack watched his new friends staring up at the strange man before them. He smiled proud to make an impression and introduced his father figure.<p>

"Guys, meet Nicholas St. North." he smirked. "AKA: Santa Clause."

The three who were recently sprawled on the floor of the workshop jumped up and brushed themselves off.

"You must be tired, yes?" North suddenly swept his right arm towards the elevator, narrowly missing Jack in the process, "Come! You must rest."

Toothless tilted his large black head and the others looked among themselves nervously. Jack saw their nervousness and instantly knew the cause; the black sand. North also noticed this and the old man shook his head.

"Workshop has had its security improved," he said before motioning again to the elevator. "All is fine. We call a meeting of the guardians tomorrow. Tonight you rest."

\* \* \*

><p>A girl with black hair sped through the dark forests of a lesser known town in Romania, avoiding the rapidly rising sun. She stumbled once, twice, the black sand rising behind her threatening to swallow her and drag her back to where she came from. She knew where she was headed but had no clue how to get there. When she was, technically, aliveâ€| Her thoughts trailed off and she turned, staring down the black cloud. Behind a tree an unusually tall man gawked at her wondering if she had gone mad. A second before the sand would have touched her she seemingly melted into shadows. The sand circled around the area where she previously was before retreating into the distance.<p>

The sunlight hit the area where she disappeared and the girl reformed, cowering in the sunlight that other than somehow scaring her was not doing her any harm. The tall man stepped out from behind the tree he was hiding behind as quietly as he could but the girl heard him. She snapped her head to face him. Her blue eyes almost burning into his so intently that he could see the flecks of gold in them. He closed his own plain grey-green eyes and opened his mouth to greet her, to welcome her to his forest.

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Hope you liked it! please review! (And, honestly, if you have an idea for a title please contribute! Thank you!)</strong>  
^w^<strong>

## 5. Chapter 5 - Stories in Dust

**\*\*Chapter 5 - Stories in Dust\*\***

Hiccup crept through the halls of Santa's workshop, easily invisible along the rows of books that lined the walls helped by the fact that anyone who was around at the time were mostly yetis and only acknowledged him with a nod or grunt in his general direction. He had the basic structure of the place slowly unwraveling in his head as he walked; \_'Not like Fishlegs,' \_he thought, \_'Fishlegs would have had the place mapped out and memorized with a glance.' \_

More sad thoughts tried to push their way to the surface of his mind but he pushed them even harder back down. He didn't want \_certain\_ parts of his memory to come up and sadden him even more.

He turned from the book-lined hallway into an icy cave; wooden struts were supporting the ceiling and yetis silently bustled around them, mending, polishing and carrying bits and pieces. Hiccup listened for a while until he heard the familiar sound; like a soft screech mixed with a cat's meow. he turned to see Toothless bounding towards him. The large reptile rubbed his nose on the small viking, pulling at his plait and curling around him.

"Hey bud," Hiccup said rubbing the neck of his best friend, "how are you going?"

The dragon responded with a happy squawk and a gummy smile.

A sweet Scottish accent broke out from nowhere. "Ye know, ah've been wondering fer a while now."

Hiccup looked up to see the firey red-head. "Yes?"

"How's a great big beastie like that," she threw out a hand towards Toothless, "Not- Ah mean- So, tame? Were they not wild?" She tilted her head, "Ah have heard stories..."

"Er. Well, I kinda tamed him." He scratched the back of his neck awkwardly, "The first to train and ride a dragon..."

"Whoa! Really?" Another voice joined in their conversation. Jack Frost stood behind him, eyes wide with interest, "What did you have to do?" He walked over closer now leaning over the body of Toothless who didn't seem to mind the extra company. Merida jumped over the Night Fury's tail and sat cross-legged on the floor in front of Hiccup. Jack continued his question, "Did you have to fight him?"

"Ahahaha, no." Hiccup laughed, "No, if we did then I would have been a horrible dragon tamer."

Rapunzel who was walking through the door to the cave noticed their little story circle and joined in sitting next to Merida and stroking Toothless' scales.

\* \* \*

><p>"Um, hello?" He cleared his throat louder than he would have liked and winced at the effect in the silent forest. "Er, ahm, what was that?"<p>

She made no sound or movement other than just staring. The man began to feel uncomfortable, which was slightly odd for he hadn't felt this was in- well, since he was alive.

"Did you hear me? Wha- Urg, nevermind." He averted his gaze, he could have sworn he saw the flecks of gold in her eyes shift and change sizes.

"I heard you." His head snapped back to stare at her. "And I'm sure you can guess what \_those\_ were."

"Uh, okay then. Shot in the dark: Sand?"

She crossed her arms and arched an eyebrow at him. "More specifically: Nightmare Sand."

"Wha- Does that mean the Boogeyman-?"

"My father."

"Beg pardon. Your father- Wait- WHAT?"

The man stuck his gloved finger in her face causing her to take a step backwards. "You're her? You're the Shadow?"

"I prefer Mavis."

"Okay, Mavis. Why are you here? What does Pitch Black want in the forest?" The man straightened his hat and stood as tall as he went. (Which was approximately twice as tall as the Shadow.)

Her head dropped down to look at her bright red Converse shoes,  
"Me."

"Huh? Why would he want you? He is your father right?"

"Yes and no." She looked up at him, "Who are you?"

"Uh, me? Have I not-"  
><em>

Mavis shook her head.

"Oh, sorry. I'm the Once-ler, Protector of the Trees. I guess." He stuck a his right hand out towards her and smiled, "Nice to meet-" He retracted his hand, "No wait, you changed the subject! What are you doing here?"

"Uh, fine." She sat down, "I guess I can explain it to you."

"Good." He sat down also, his long legs folding gracefully.

"My father used to be Dracula-"

"WHAT! The Drac-"

"Shush! Do you want to hear the story or not?"

"Ugh, fine. I'm quiet."

"And he ran a hotel for all sorts of monsters, humans were eventually allowed to stay there too after a boy had shown my father that people weren't that bad anymore. The boy, Jonathan, he- we were in love. That was, until that day. There was a car and- hic- I tried to save him," Tears started to fall even though she tried so hard to hold them back. She felt so stupid crying in front of someone she hardly knew but she couldn't hold back anymore. She hadn't told anyone, not even the Boogeyman, and now it took it's toll. "But it was too late. He- hic- Urg. An- and I stayed in the sun for too long that day. I crumbled to dust, like all vampires who've- Then I awoke, the moon- hic- I was in dad's castle, dad's empty castle. The Hunters had come. They killed everyone. I couldn't- kuh."

The Once-ler had wrapped his arms around her, Mavis continued with her story, wiping her eyes with her red-striped sleeves.

"Pitch took me in. He said that there was nothing we could do for my family. He helped me control my new powers and taught me not to be scared of the sunlight. He was genuinely a father to me. The I heard of what he did to the world, to the Guardians, to the children and I couldn't believe him. I didn't want to be like that so I ran. He's plotting something, I need to tell the Guardians, I need to get to the North Pole."

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Hey! I'm back! I know long time no update but my laptop murdered my first attempt at this chapter and I've been procrastinating, so yeah. I gave myself feels while writing this

chap. TwT Anywho, R+R plz! 3 <strong>

## 6. Chapter 6 - Helpful Information

### **\*\*Chapter 6 - Helpful Information\*\***

"And we were flying downwards, well more like falling really. The tail fin slowly burning up..."

Jack had moved from his position over Toothless' back to next to Merida and Punzie and they sat there like school children listening to "teacher" Hiccup's story of the Green Death.

"Then Toothless and I turned and he fired into it's mouth. It went up in a fireball and we got knocked into the middle of it. I was unconscious but he saved me! Well most of me." he pointed towards his left leg.

"Oh!" Rapunzel covered her mouth in shock, Jack's eyes widened but Merida only raised an eyebrow. His leg was made of metal and wood.

"Does it hurt a lot?"

"Ahaha," Hiccup no longer felt awkward and he talked freely, lounging on Toothless' neck, "Not anymore."

"Ah must admit," Merida shifted her position on the floor, "Yer story was much more interesting than me dad's."

"Was he a cripple too?"

She smiled, "Of course. On his left leg also, got it by fighting the Demon Bear."

Just as they were about to go into another round of their little story time a yeti bounded it's way towards them, getting the attention of the nearly asleep dragon and, after Hiccup had fallen on top of them, the four spirits. Jack greeted the yeti as 'Phil' and after talking with him for a moment he turned back towards the others.

"Something, someone, has popped up in the globe room."

\* \* \*

><p>"The North Pole, eh?" the Once-ler scratched his chin, "Do you need to get there quickly?"<p>

Mavis nodded, "As fast as possible."

"I think I know and \_extremely \_fast way," he walked over towards a tree and then another, he seemed to be examining them. "Although I'm not sure how well it will work; I haven't tried it with another person with me in a while."

He knocked on a thick tree trunk before holding his hand towards her, 'You might want to hold on.'

"What are you doing?" Mavis walked over to him and took his hand as he pressed his other hand on the tree.

"Just watch," his hand seemingly melted through the wood of the tree, Mavis flinched. "And please don't let go."

She was about to question him but stopped mid sentence when his whole body, with the exception of the hand that was holding her own, melted into the wood of the tree as he walked forward as easily as he would walk through a doorway. She was dragged along as well and, before she could protest, melted into the tree with him.

\* \* \*

><p>As the four ran into the main room, they were greeted by North who was near the control panel. He pointed towards the wooden support struts that held up the ceiling where they were greeted with an odd sight. A man with black hair and who was wearing a grey hat was poking his head <em>through<em> the wood of the struts and into the room. When Jack saw him he laughed and waved.

"Hey!" he called up, "Oncie! Long time no see!"

"Frost!" he smiled and waved with his free hand. While he was doing this another hand appeared from the wood flailing, ungloved and feminine. It grasped the wood and then another head popped out to the left of the Once-ler gasping for breath.

"Ah! Haa..." she looked around. "What. We're here already?"

The Once-ler looked at her, "Almost."

As soon as he said that he jumped out of the wood, pulling her with him, and they both floated down to the floor like a leaf in Autumn. North walked over to the two and he helped them up, he welcomed them then stopped. He stared at the girl, he saw the traces of gold in the blue of her eyes but also the grey of her skin. His eyes narrowed and everyone in the room could sense a tension in the air.

Then North smiled, "Welcome!" he said before turning to the one of the yeti's and beckoning him over. "Come! We make guests feel comfortable." He turned back, "Then might you have some news to share?"

She smiled and let out a sigh, "Yes."

She walked over to where the Once-ler now was, catching up with his old friend and meeting a few new ones. \_'I guess it's time to make new friends.'\_

\* \* \*

><p>The spikey haired necromancer and his button-eyed doll were headed north. They were two of the fairly new spirits raised by the Man in the Moon and had still not gotten a complete grasp on what their powers could do. However they had new information on the Boogeyman's new and threatening allies, so they ran northward fully aware of what was chasing them. The necromancer was agile and the living doll barely weighed anything, at least in this form, and sat on his shoulder. After running far enough from the blackness and dust



that was chasing them he set the doll down. He stepped back and the doll grew and grew into a stitched-up girl, this time with only one button for an eye, the other was a plain brown.<p>

"You should have done this to start with." The human doll scolded him.

"I was putting it off obviously," he gave her a look that seemed almost anxious but his tone stayed the same, much like the unchanging green aura that surrounded him. "You know I hate travelling this way."

"Sulk all you want," her voice was raspy and echoed yet there were still traces of a young girl's sweet voice. "This way's still faster than just running all the way there."

She bent over and her blue hair shaded her eyes as she touched the ground with her finger, when she pulled away the ground looked as if it were tearing itself open to reveal a mysteriously glowing, blueish passage with cloth, webby walls.

"After you, Norman," the girl said while shrinking back into her rag doll form.

He picked her up and set her on his shoulder as before. "Were you always so polite Coraline?"

"Obviously."

The two jumped down the strange wormhole and it closed up as strangely and quickly as it appeared just before the darkness and dust that was chasing them washed over and swallowed the exact area they were in.

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Yo! I hope you've liked it so far! Thank you to all those who have reviewed, I do read them and take your advice. It's really very helpful! ^u^ Stay cool!<strong>

## 7. Chapter 7 - Revealed Secrets

**\*\*Chapter 7 - Revealed Secrets\*\***

"Guys!" Jack was grinning his face off as he pushed the tall man forward, "This giraffe here's called the Once-ler. We're old buds."

"Hey." he raised a gloved hand awkwardly.

"Och! Ah know ye!" Merida exclaimed suddenly, "Yer th person who took over from the Lorax."

"What?" Hiccup looked at her in confusion, "Who?"

"Ye know," she elbowed him causing him to smirk and rub his arm, "Protector of the forests."

"So... You're the tree guy?"

"Close enough."

He turned around and beckoned the strange girl that had arrived with him over to their little group.

"Everyone," the Once-ler spoke, "this is Mavis."

Rapunzel stepped forward and stuck out her right hand, "Nice to meet you Mavis, my name is Rapunzel."

Mavis shyly shook her hand before retracting it quickly and using it to tuck a lock of black hair behind her own ear.

The brunette girl then gestured to the others that were there. "And that's Merida, Hiccup and Jack Frost. And you've met the Once-ler." Mavis nodded and smiled to each of them in turn, when she met Jack's eyes she froze for a millisecond seeing the suspicion on his face and wondering whether he knew of her before they were all called to North's office where hot chocolate and cookies awaited them.

The frost spirit himself was, indeed, suspicious of the girl with gold sand in the colour of her eyes yet with skin as grey as the Boogeyman's, but he chose not to show it.

\* \* \*

><p>Pitch Black strode through the old and abandoned castle slowly adding his own touches. Rearranging a few hallways and staircases into an abstract style and adding black sand sculptures everywhere he thought appropriate.<p>

He was interrupted by a loud knocking on the front doors of the place and didn't seem to mind when the person just let themselves in.

"I think I'm slightly early to the house warming, dear." The person pulled down the hood he was wearing to reveal the face of an old crone, not unlike the characteristics of evil, and ugly, witches that fairy tales produce. "Because it seems that you haven't finished decorating."

"Do not fret however, I did bring a gift." A single wave of her hand and a cloth covered cage appeared. The Boogeyman paid attention, ignoring the fact that he was extremely unimpressed by her little magic tricks.

"Now before you go and unwrap it don't you have to give me my little gift?" She smirked showing an incomplete set of rotting and coloured teeth.

"I thought you were giving it to me out of the kindness of your heart?" Pitch hissed.

"I don't own one of those anymore. I thought you knew? Now, the quicker the better, I'm not getting any younger by just waiting here."

"Ha hah, of course, \_Gothel\_." the grey man pointed a single grey finger towards her and a swirling gust of black sand hurtled towards the old lady fully encompassing her, and after the sand had burst

away from her form like a popped bubble she was no longer old. She had been transformed into a young, curvy woman with thick, dark and curly hair.

"Thank you Pitchy," she sighed contentedly while rubbing her now smooth arms with now non-wrinkly fingers. "Shall we open your gift?"

He almost smiled as he walked over towards his gift and extravagantly whipped off the heavy cloth that was covering it in a single stroke.

In the cage the two captives flinched when they felt the cold, musty air hit them and they blinked away the sudden brightness. When they noticed who was holding them hostage they both were enraged and alarmed.

The pooka started yelling and swinging his fists outside the cage where his target was just out of reach, "Oi! Get 'ere so I can punch ya!"

The fairy's feathers were standing up on their edge as a cat's fur would to make itself look larger than the opponent. "How are you here Pitch?!" she almost screamed.

The accused rolled his eyes and the two in the cage were magically muted and covered with the darkness once again. From inside the cage they could hear Pitch's voice, "It's exactly what I wanted, we can start phase 2 now."

\* \* \*

><p>When all members had gathered in North's office (excluding all the yetis who had work to do and all the elves who would just get in the way) the meeting began. It became very crowded inside and when Merida and Jack complained North remarked that it was for extra secrecy; this earned confused looks from everyone in the room.<p>

"You will understand when you hear news," he brought out a plate of assorted iced cookies from under his desk. "There are two more people to come, hopefully. So save seat for them, okay?"

The large man plopped himself down on the large chair stationed behind the work desk and swiped a single hand to clear it of small chunks of ice. "Now, Mavis," he spoke, addressing the dark haired girl, "You have something to explain to us?"

"Uh, yes," she twisted her hands together nervously. She started again before stopping and sighing deeply, it was too late to turn back now, "My name is Mavis and I was the Boogeyman's daughter." She hissed out the final word with contempt but even so Jack soot up suddenly, eyes wide with a cross between fear and anger.

"WHAT!" he turned to North, "Did you know? I-! Urgh! Why did you let her in here!?" the frost on his staff grew and spread, around his bare feet frosty patterns appeared and the room suddenly became colder than usual.

"Jack." North's voice became slightly dangerous in tone and he stood

up, placing his hands gently on his desk. "You should be glad that she's here. She is not on his side any more and will be giving us important information."

A frown graced Jack's face but he sat back down on a wooden chair that, like his staff and the wood around his feet, instantly became covered in intricate icy patterns.

North spoke again, "I would only call you here if it was emergency, and according to Manny, it is emergency."

An intrigued murmur came from five of the six other people in the room. The other only gritted her teeth.

"Pitch Black has returned." This one sentence caused a varied response from everyone in the room. "I have tried to contact the other Guardians but I could only get through to Sandman. I fear for the missing two Guardians, but hopefully our coming two guests will bring good news."

Before Rapunzel could finish her sentence of 'Wait \_who's\_ coming?' a ripping sound revealed a glowing portal on the ceiling, out of which fell a spikey-haired kid wearing a dark maroon cape; he landed \_on top\_ of Hiccup, Merida and the Once-ler which ended in a tangle of metal, lengthy limbs, cloth and messy hair. After the Queen of the Wisps had morphed herself out of the equation although it was slightly easier for the other three.

Father Christmas smiled, "Welcome to you Norman and Coraline," he said in a voice much quieter than usual.

Rapunzel looked at him questioningly, "\_And? \_I only see one?"

The blue haired doll that the caped man was carrying grew to the size of a human. Rapunzel only looked surprised for a second before North interrupted, "And good news?"

There was an uncomfortable silence as Coraline bit her lower lip and Norman looked from her to North nervously. "Not quite," he said informatively, "More bad news than not, E. Aster Bunnymund and Toothiana have been taken captive by the Nightmare King."

Nicholas St. North pursed his lips and stroked his beard thoughtfully. "Is there anything else?"

"Other than the fact that Nightmares and a type of weird dust is following us," Coraline crossed her arms, "Nothing else."

North quickly turned around and looked out the glass window behind him. "Are they coming here? How much time do we have?"

Norman's eyes glowed green for just a second, "Not long, thirty minutes at the least."

North turned back, "Well then! We barricade as much as possible, then we fight!" He raised a single sword and everyone quickly dispersed from the room to do their part in preparations.

Jack stayed behind and faced North, "Can we really trust this Mavis girl?"

"It would be worse to have her on their side." he shoood him from his office, "Now go and help the others; we shall soon have unwanted company."

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Due to my friends, my sister and other people on this site I might include Jim Hawkins from Treasure Planet. =o= Possibly just as a cameo, possibly not, idk.<strong>

\*\*To Eden: Norman is the main protagonist from the stop motion movie Paranorman. :)\*\*

\*\*Yo! Chapter 7's here! Thank you all for your wonderful reviews as per usual! Next chappie will have a fight scene (or two) I promise! Ta again!\*\*

## 8. Chapter 8 - Battleground Surprises

\*\*Chapter 8 - Battleground Surprises\*\*

The fairly large group all stood on top of and around the base of The Workshop everyone almost prepared for what was coming for them. Ten minutes earlier than was predicted something invisible shook the earth. Wobbling and unsteady people started wondering about the source, that if the something that could that was more powerful and possibly even more sentient than they originally thought. Approximately two minutes later the cloud of dust and darkness that was just visible on the horizon disappeared suddenly with a thump and a shockwave that could be felt echoing through the spirits' feet to the tip of their head. They held their breath, frantically looking around for where it had gotten to.

A undulating shape composed of dust and sand particles shot itself off the ground suddenly and out of nowhere to float menacingly just off the cliff on which the large building was positioned.

Eyes widened and bodies jolted into defensive positions.

Jack's grip tightened around his staff "That's big."

The Once-ler gulped.

"No kidding." Voiced a Scottish accent from somewhere behind them.

North silenced them as the mass moved again blocking out the sun and weaving itself into another different shape.

Hiccup barely mentioned the word "octopus" before the tentacles zoomed towards them.

They moved into action; a bow morphed itself out of nowhere as Merida closed her hand around it and at the same time pulling a glowing blue arrow, also from air before taking the first shot. The arrow dismembered one of the tentacles in a small flash of blue light and it fell squirming to the roof she almost thought she might have been triumphant as the stump shriveled back in on itself but was

disappointed when the sand and dust melted away and reformed the main body.

Hiccup swung himself onto Toothless' saddle and held his hand out to the now frustrated Scot, "Need a better view?"

"Och, thanks." She took his hand and hopped on behind him.

The black dragon unfurled it's powerful wings and took off.

\* \* \*

><p>Jack had frozen a few of the tentacles but more kept forming as he did so, he flew up and behind it trying to look for a weak spot. From the sky he could see Rapunzel and Oncie hurriedly creating leafy vines that stretched upward and attempted to grab the main body. The vines swiped at the creature but every time one of it managed to wrap itself around a tentacle the said appendage flowed around the leafy branch and escaped his grasp as the vine fell heavily to the ground.<p>

Mavis bit her lip and ran to the edge of the rooftop where she looked down and shouted out to the Once-ler, "It cannot be trapped with anything but it's own matter."

He frowned, "Can you replicate it?"

"It has nightmare sand in it that I can make," she held out her open palm, a swirling vortex of black sand in it, "But I only have a limited amount, not to mention the fact that mine isn't exactly like the Boogeyman's."

"Just give it a shot."

Rapunzel gave a single nod as she and Oncie stretched out their arms as the vine picked itself up from it's previous slumped position on the floor. Mavis then flicked her wrist and threw the handful of her nightmare sand to coat the entire top half of the plant with black. It encircled a single tentacle and gripped on tightly. It slipped through the it once again, with a little more difficulty than before, but still rather smoothly and easily. Mavis grimaced and looked down to the Once-ler again. "Let me try again."

Before she could make another attempt one of the giant black limbs slammed itself against the roof, the force shattered glass and cracked woodwork; which yetis from both the inside and the outside of the building rushed to fix. The shock wave also brought Mavis to her knees but before she could stand up again another tentacle hit, slightly lower down the building than where she was standing; this one made her fall off the building entirely.

The Once-ler, who had been watching the entire scene with anxiety, gave a small shout and propelled himself up towards her falling form on a leafy platform. He caught her awkwardly and brought her in towards himself before lowering the platform again quickly, but gently, back to the snow.

"Are you okay?" Rapunzel inquired, helping the two to their feet.

Mavis brushed herself off and turned to the brunette girl with a smile, "I'm fine, thank you Rapunzel. I want to try again now."

The two nature spirits turned back to the limp stalk and worked to straighten it up again, Mavis added her own power to this and the vine became infused with black. This time the branches held fast and whispered cheer came from the three.

Coraline, who had also been with Punzie and the Once-ler, (but had been unable to help them due to the lack of nature-based powers,) sprung into action. Grabbing a sewing needle from the pocket on her belt, she held it fast between her forefinger and her thumb where it grew and grew into a large broadsword almost larger than herself and laced with intricate patterns and spirals. Swinging it over her shoulder with the same ease as she would if it was still the weight of a needle, she started climbing.

\* \* \*

><p>In the sky Toothless was preparing for a dive, he folded his wings in and dropped; the air whistling past his body faster and faster. Hiccup clung to his back expertly like he had done a million times before, the inexperienced passenger behind him however was holding on for dear life. She had been warned but she still hadn't expected anything like what she was experiencing; gathering both her courage and her balance she moved her bow and decked a single arrow. It glowed with her power and she exhaled calmly.<p>

Hiccup had sensed what she planned to do and he intended to back her up, "Hold your fire please Meri."

She held. Toothless got closer and closer to his target and the whistle turned to a screech.

\* \* \*

><p>As Coraline climbed she sliced through the various black tentacles that tried (and failed) to swat her off. Down below her the two nature guardians were trying their best to keep the vine as steady as possible while the Nightmare King's daughter helped it keep a firm grip on her father's creation. If she were down there with them she would be able to see their beads of sweat forming as they tried to keep a hold and would have heard Mavis' strained voice mentioning that this was a completely different form of sand and that she wouldn't be able to hold on much longer.<p>

They couldn't see what Coraline herself saw; a black dragon diving through the sky, she decided that instead of hopelessly trying to tell them she would just have to climb faster.

\* \* \*

><p>"Go!"<p>

Merida fired, the glowing blue streak was closely followed by larger blue fireball. The arrow hit first sending jolts of fiery streaks through the creature making it jerk as if it were being electrocuted. Toothless' shot however, obliterated a considerably large hole and flew through and up again turning around in the sky and circling back to observe the damage. The Octopus jolted only a few more times

before regaining itself and closing it's wound once again.  
Disappointment came verbally from all three.

\* \* \*

><p>Jack heard a thump and several shouts from below him, the vines which Coraline was climbing had been uprooted by the sudden jerking of the dust-octopus and she hung on tightly and determinedly. He scanned down to where Rapunzel was: at the base, near the dangerously thrashing, thick roots. He saw as she stumbled backwards with Oncie and Mavis by her side, but he could also see that they were all still in range of the now whip-like vine.<p>

Before he could think about warning her the vine back lashed sending them flying outwards.

While Jack had been distracted one of the tentacles (which had all sprouted eyes on almost every inch it on every arm) had spotted him and was headed straight for him. He turned at the last minute, shocked then determined, and dropped himself through the air and between the creature's many lower appendages. The eyed-tentacle continued to follow and Jack tried a little harder to shake it off. Norman, who had stopped his attacks and was trying to think of an effective way to defeat it saw this from his spot floating, ghost-like from above, and thought he might have just found his answer.

"Jack! Don't let it stop following you!" he called, hands cupped around his mouth.

"What!" Jack flicked an annoyed glance over in the boy's general direction, "Why?"

"Remember what Mavis said?"

"It can only be trapped by something of the same," Jack recited as best he could whilst dodging tentacles.

Toothless had settled back down onto the roof and both of his riders dismounted with ease. "But Mavis can't make much of that type of nightmare sand effectively." Hiccup said addressing Norman's caped back.

He turned around to face the dragon rider and Queen of the Wisps. "We don't need to make anything. We can make it trap itself."

Jack, still flying around dodging black armatures, nodded and began weaving through and around other tentacles leading the one that was following him. As this was taking place the necromancer turned to Merida.

"Your arrows seem to shock it," he said, taking the leadership, "once we get it pinned down, if you can create a large enough force we may be able to scare it off."

She smirked, "Ah've got it."

Norman then took off; floating from place to place, Hiccup and Toothless also zipped around leading tentacles to tangle with others. Coraline, who had managed to clamber her way to the top of the



creature, began taunting it. She sliced off bits of it and mad it chase her where she ran to the opposite side of the body and ducked out of view.

\* \* \*

><p>The creature was falling down, it was just over their heads and the three decided that it was time to get out of there, to put it plainly. Rapunzel sprouted one last vine with the remainder of her energy and they all grabbed on as she powered it up to the rooftop.<p>

The octopus floated as much as it could just off the ground but everyone could see that it was practically finished, just one final blow.

\* \* \*

><p>On the roof a hundred little blue human-ish shaped balls of fire held ghostly drawn arrows, it was leaning more towards threatening than cute as was the transparent and glowing blue girl that lead them. Merida's hair along with the rest of her was blue yet still fiery, not to mention the flames that licked the bottom of her hair, and blew about as if a strong wind was blowing. She spoke in a mix between English and some type of language of the Fae; and even though her Scottish accent still blatantly audible she stood and directed with the air of royalty that silenced everyone. (She thought later that it might have even rivaled her mother.)<p>

She cocked her arrow up and aimed along with the others as the nightmare creature squirmed below, all of it's eyes glaring at her.

A single word and a gigantic cluster made with streaks of blue fire flew and impaled the dust and sand with a flash of light.

\* \* \*

><p>When everyone had blinked back the light the creature was only clumps slithering their way back to where they came from, and all of the wisps were gone, excluding their queen who now sat sprawled and slightly less regally on her backside. She gave a small cheer for herself as she faded back into normality and flipped her once again red hair, stood up, rather clumsily, and walked over to the others where they all celebrated their victory.<p>

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Sorry if I hadn't updated as quickly as you hoped! o I've just been kinda stressed with schoolwork.<strong>

\*\*If you hadn't noticed this was an unusually long chapter even though I try to keep them all the same size. The characters literally just wrote themselves, and I couldn't stop. :P Don't expect another of this length for a while.\*\*

\*\*Next chapter will have a little focus on Hiccup and possibly some small Hiccstrid, (I just need to get it out of the way, it's part of the plot, don't kill me yet!) it will also be Mericcup so don't fret, peeps! \*\*

**\*\*I hope you liked my first attempt at a battle scene!\*\***

**\*\*And thank you for your constant reviews as always. ;D\*\***

## 9. Chapter 9 - Ghostly Mission

**\*\*Chapter 9 - Ghostly Mission\*\***

Before North had called them all into the globe room and after the battle against the Nightmare King's monster Norman asked to speak with Hiccup, privately. So, in one of the rooms lined with books, in the elaborate maze that was known as Santa's Workshop, the two sat, away from everyone else and their mini celebration.

Hiccup spoke first, "So, uh, why did you call me here?" he asked.

The necromancer sighed, "I guess I'll get straight to the point," he opened his eyes again and looked, not at the skinny viking, but just past him. Hiccup looked over his own shoulder wondering what it was that the other person was looking at.

"You're being haunted."

Hiccup snapped his head back to face him.

Norman just continued speaking, "She doesn't seem to have done anything, I guess she just wants to stay around you. But you must get her to leave, having her here is deteriorating your soul and also her own."

Hiccup swallowed, "Is it anyone I-" he hesitated for a second, then continued, "-knew?"

Norman nodded, "Yes, I'm definitely sure you know her. And I think it might be best if you spoke to her yourself." He then suddenly stepped forward and placed his hand over the other's eyes. "This spell will only last 10 minutes, please sort it out by then." The necromancer then left the room, shutting the door tightly behind him.

Alone in the room the boy blinked into his new vision, everything was tinted a shade of sickly green.

"A ghost, huh," he thought, slowly scanning the room.

He jumped when he finally spotted the ghost he jumped back, startled, but when he made eye contact he immediately froze and silently studied her features. He held his breath as the blond head lowered to look down past the floor with sad blue eyes. Tattered furs stained with red were draped over her shoulders, specks of the same red could be seen scattered in her hair and clumped heavily around her stomach leading up to her chest. The eyes were tear-stained but, considering Norman's "laws-of-being-a-ghost", must have been like that since the time of her death.

He gave an unbelieving gasp before choking on the word that he was sure he hadn't used in over a thousand years.

"Astrid."

\* \* \*

><p>Merida was in the globe room along with everyone else, North had told them that they needed to check out the Warren and the Tooth Palace but also that they could have a bit of a break beforehand. So there she sat carving more patterns into the wooden support beams of the room and listening to stories and jokes that were being told. She wondered where the Dragon Tamer and The Necromancer were; Norman had called Hiccup over almost as soon as their battle had ended and she hadn't seen them since.<p>

In the background an extremely bad joke was told, obviously aimed at the Once-ler from his irritated grunt. Jack made a remark about needing to cool off before creating a small flurry over the forest spirit's head with his staff and dusting him with snowflakes. This made the laughter of the three other girls increase as Jack smirked proudly and Oncie rolled his eyes.

Merida spotted Norman quietly walking along and smoothly slipping into the small group's conversation that, if the red head hadn't been paying attention, she wouldn't have even noticed him gone. She sidestepped to where the Necromancer was, though before she asked he shook his head, as if he had read her mind.

"I know what you are going to ask," he whispered to her, "And no, I can't tell you where he is, nor can you go there to help him. He has to face her ghost himself."

Merida was slightly confused but he said nothing more when she asked. And so she folded her arms and waited for Hiccup to ask him herself, staring at the hallway which Norman had come from and ignoring the conversation behind her.

\* \* \*

><p>"Hey Hic," she sighed, her voice floating and empty, drifting through the air like her transparent form that looked exactly like she did when he last saw her limp form on the battle field that he, invisible and unable to help, fled from. "Nice to see you again."<p>

The boy sputtered, "Astrid," he reached forward to grab one of her hands, his fingers went right through her own. He bit his lip hard to hold back tears that had been kept inside for too many years. "You- You're- I can't believe-"

He clenched his fists to stop his hands from shaking as feelings that were buried were suddenly, and painfully, resurfacing.

"You left suddenly," she whispered, "leaving Berk, leaving me. \_They\_ made you leave, and we were extremely angry. There was war and many died, before and including me." She gave a sigh, "Everyone died and was born and died and was born and died and was-" she stopped, with a sob. "But you- You still lived, even after you were burnt to ashes."

"Astrid," he reached out to touch her face and cup it in his hands,

his fingers phased through her and he clenched them again in frustration. "I didn't ask for this! I used to not even \_want\_ this!"

"\_Used to\_, you said \_used to\_." Astrid sighed again, "That necromancer was right, thousands of years is tearing at my soul; less at yours, I guess because you have a body." She sighed once more, her voice getting weaker, "I might not even be able to speak to you for much longer."

Before Hiccup could even begin to comfort her she spoke again, "I've been being selfish, you deserve this gift. And I'm sorry for absolutely anything I've done to hold you back." Her form along with her voice began to fade and the boy panicked.

"No, Astrid wait!"

"That's all I wanted to say," Her body was almost clear and parts of her were coming off in green clouds that drifted off into nothingness, "I'm sorry Hiccup." Her voice was now so soft that the boy had to hold his breath and strain his ears to hear her. "Goodbye..."

Hiccup jolted into action again reaching his hand towards her, still fading. She waved a single hand, smiling, before disappearing entirely. The dragon rider's hand balled tightly into a fist. He growled and slammed his hand from it's position in the air to the ground. Biting back a sob he stood up and wiped a hand over his eyes before turning to the comfortable chair that a few minutes ago he sat in. He collapsed and relaxed into it. The boy then sighed and turned his face to the ceiling.

"Thank you Astrid."

\* \* \*

><p>Jack threw his snow globe into the air and grabbed it again. Rapunzel, Norman and Coraline stood by him as he checked weather his team were all ready to go. With nods from the other three the words "Tooth Palace" were whispered to the glass ball as a magnificent cave strung with gold structures appeared in miniature. Seeing it work he raised his free arm and threw it to the ground. Instead of shattering like what was expected of something made out of glass, it collapsed in on itself before swirling out and growing into a wormhole-shaped portal that warped the look of the objects behind it. Jack then led his team through it and the portal swallowed them as it warped itself closed.<p>

The Once-ler weighed the globe carefully in his hand , whispered "The Warren" and made the portal as Jack did as he and the final three stepped through.

\* \* \*

><p>\*knock, knock\*<p>

Pitch sighed and turned toward the large doors of the former hotel. He glared at it and turned toward the other inhabitant of the gothic castle, "Gothel," he addressed her, "our guest is here."

She nodded before talking to the door, "Come in."

The wood doors swung open and a small old lady stood, her curly grey hair moving slightly in the wind. She smiled a toothy grin as she addressed the two villains, "You called?" she crooned, hobbling inside and towards them. "What?" she spoke hoarsely whilst sauntering up to the resident tall, dark and creepy. "What can an old \_woodcrafter\_, " she drew out the word sourly, the crow on her shoulder cackling horribly, "offer you?"

The boogeyman crinkled his grey nose, the action was mirrored by the other curly haired woman. He spoke, "We have need of your \_particular \_services."

The crone rubbed her hands together gleefully, "Ooh, what kind of carving would you desire?"

"Not a carving," Pitch shook his head, "something \_special\_, a spell."

"Tsk," the old woman sighed. "Do you know what you're getting into?"

"Exactly," Gothel pulled the cloth off the cage in the corner revealing the two unconscious Guardians, one; a pooka, the other; a fairy. "You can transform these into something \_interesting\_ for the Queen of the Wisps, right?"

The witch's gaze darkened, "Do not push them. You should know, they are more powerful than you expect."

"Just do this already."

"She won't like this."

"Good."

\* \* \*

><p><strong>Chapter 9 is here! Sorry about the Hiccstrid in the Mericcup fic. (Don't hurt me!) There will be more Mericcup in the future, i promise.<strong>

\*\*Anywho! Review if you please. Thank you!\*\*

## 10. Chapter 10 - Hope and Feathers

\*\*Chapter 10 - Hope and Feathers\*\*

Jack stared in horror at the fallen figures all around him; easily a million miniature hummingbird-hybrids sprawled everywhere. A draft blew through the empty space. Dropping his staff he ran towards one of the sleeping fairies and picked it up, cradling it gently in his palms. "What did this to you?"

"Jack!" Coraline's voice rang out from a higher golden platform. His eyes followed her outstretched finger to a spot only a few meters in front of him; there Baby Tooth, her wings bent oddly, staggered dazed and confused among her sisters. The winter spirit snatched up his

magically infused stick and floated just above her where he scooped the tiny fairy up in one hand before zooming back to clear ground.

"Baby Tooth? Are you okay?"

She squeaked weakly and fluttered her wings cutely but she could not even rise an inch before falling back into Jack's hands. She gave a trill and hopped from the Frost's palms to his blue frosted hood.

A green-cloaked boy floated himself and a button-eyed doll from the upper platforms, "Rapunzel, Jack," he called, "you might wanna see what we found."

\* \* \*

><p>When the five reached the highest gold and pink stage they landed softly and quietly, not to disturb the bulging, twitching lump of disgustingly dusty grey fur.<p>

"I have a feeling that this doesn't belong here." Coraline stated, sarcastically but in a whisper.

The group crept towards the twitching heap, black sand was visible in it's fur which, in turn, was all tangled and knotted and stood on end. None of the small group had any inclination to touch it so they only eyed it, moving themselves around the object so that they might get a better view. They held their breath while examining the creature, that continued to twitch and heave as if it might jump at any moment. Instead it stood; slowly and with it's head still lowered, the twitchiness had stopped and there was a sudden calm. The four of them (and Baby Tooth riding in Jack's hood) stepped backwards, wary of the monstrosity in front of them.

It raised it's head.

The eyes were unnaturally dilated but the face was snarling. It stood facing them it's stance protective yet angry. The fur had ethereal patterns seemingly "tattooed" on it, brown straps were slung across it's chest, now rid of what should have been holding boomerangs.

Jack lost his breath, "Bunny?"

The creature snapped.

\* \* \*

><p>It pounced, flying into the open air, jumping in one quick bound forward and straight at them. They stumbled backwards for a moment before Coraline stepped forward.<p>

The doll hopped off Norman's shoulder, growing as she landed. She shifted her weight from one foot to the other, at the same time pulling out a small needle from the stitched pouch. A whoosh and the small metal item grew into a familiar large sword. She held it in both hands (almost smiling at the familiar weight) and it swung out protectively making a metallic ring as it went.

Focusing on the beast's eyes she thought she saw the fear deep

within. "Okay," she spoke, "I know you don't want me to hurt you. I can see that."

The infected pooka flinched.

"Can you control this?"

It trembled and looked at it's feet.

"No? How long can you hold-?"

\* \* \*

><p>The question was interrupted by a warning shouted from the necromancer who was hovering above. The doll-girl didn't need to look up and she sprung backwards, narrowly avoiding a black and grey paw. However she still collided with Rapunzel and Jack. They all tumbled off the platform, the hummingbird fairy shrilly chirping, Jack catching the brown haired girl under her arms and Coraline stabbing her large sword into the base of the platform to break her fall. Norman flew past, the large rabbit falling behind him. It squawked and flailed as it fell. Coraline twisted and pushed off her sword, (which turned back into a sewing needle as soon as it left her fingers) she kicked the falling bunny sending it into the opposite wall. He landed hard and his wrists were frozen together; courtesy of Jack. It grunted and squirmed on the tiles, a gargling sound coming out of it's mouth.<p>

Norman floated onto the platform, "I think we found a missing Guardian." he let go of Punzie and she landed lightly on her feet running over to where Jack and Coraline were helping the mutated Bunnymund sit up.

"His mind is almost gone!" she said as she removed her hand from his forehead. "And I can't see any hope in his eyes..."

\* \* \*

><p>The girl removed her hand from my forehead turning towards the familiar boy and shaking her head. She said something but most of it sounded bleary like it was being spoken through water. I was so far back in my own mind that I could not control my own body, instead the dark magic that was infused with it made it move with rage. I did <em>try</em> to control it but I cannot so I sit at the back of my head.

The girl mentions a word, it rings through my head like a chime. "Hope". It starts my mind thinking again.

"'Hope?' Where is my hope? If this is what I protect then I had better practice what I preach"

\* \* \*

><p>The creature suddenly stood, breaking free of the hold of Jack and Coraline, it grunted, facing them as if he were trying to convey something.<p>

One grunt. Two.

He staggered backwards.

Then a growl, sudden and dangerous.

\* \* \*

><p><em>"I can't do this by myself. I'm hopeless."<em>

\* \* \*

><p>The growl stopped short and the pooka collapsed to the ground. Norman floated down, his hands still tingling with green glow. "We need to get him to the pole."<p>

A collective nod and some shuffling later they were all (Bunnymund included) stepping through a portal.

\* \* \*

><p>A moan echoed through the vacant caves, reaching the attention of the four and the dragon. It wavered louder and it transitioned also in pitch wobbling high and low, piercing the former calmness of the Warren. They turned and glanced around them: silence. Toothless growled and a fluttery sound was heard towards one of the lower tunnels.<p>

The group quickly trekked towards the noises that kept growing louder and higher until it was an unbearably pitched scream.

They edged cautiously towards the gaping mouth of the cave and peeped in.

Without light what they saw was just a clump of a dusty collection, dully coloured; flowers? fabric? old eggshells? feathers?

Merida held her hand out and it transitioned from peachy to blue, acting as a torch it revealed the source of the screaming.

The Tooth Fairy, hunched over and molting dull feathers to a pile of black below her. She was heaving and the team at the entrance grimaced as lumpy black sludge fell slowly from her mouth. She looked up and her eyes were grey as she clawed at her face with now deformed hands that had bloated, her fingers turning into claws.

She spoke hoarsely and rapidly, "Please! Something's happening to me! Please help m-"

Her voice stopped short and she choked, coughing up more blackness. The violent coughing was cut off suddenly and she looked up and stared, wide eyed, mouth half open in a silent plead.

Then her eyes fell blank.

Black veined out from the corner of her eyes and spread, slowly and vine-like through the rest of her body, branching out into every feather.

A rumble and her form hunched, taking a wolf-like stance as the claws on her hands extended and retraced as she breathed.



Jolting forwards the feathers underneath her flurried and tornado-ed out of the cave and engulfed every person (and dragon) in sight.

\* \* \*

><p>Mavis pushed her way through the cloud of black, trying to avoid the glowing eyes of the mutated fairy as she searched for her friends. She grabbed hold of a gloved wrist and pulled the Once-ler closer just before another scream was heard. The fairy's screams were becoming unbearable and the Nightmare Princess hoped to be out of the place soon. The tall man behind her called out their teammates' names; in response a blue glow flickered to the west of the two. The fire outlined the shape of a girl, Merida. They started towards her but the feathers turned on them, stabbing towards them.<p>

Noticing this at the last second she pushed forward her small clump of Nightmare Sand to form a shield. The feathers thunked on the object and fell silent. As soon as she lowered the shield another scream came. The two ran behind an egg-shaped rock and crouched, from there they saw the feathers fly even more furiously around the agonized fairy and the blue fire flicker, then flash before extinguishing completely.

After the flash the fathers fell still, hanging in the air; stationary as if someone, somewhere had pressed pause on a remote. The fairy collapsed onto the ground; a faintly glowing arrow lodged in her shoulder and smoke rising from a patch of charred grass a meter before her. The feathers were still dull and laced with black but her eyes, however, had returned to their normal purple.

She squeaked and looked about her, Oncie and Mavis looked around as well. They were now the only three living creatures there; Hiccup, Toothless and Merida had disappeared.

"No!" the Tooth Fairy's eyes were wide, "Where are your companions?"

She stood slowly wobbling as she went until she stopped suddenly, a look of realization dawning on her face.

"Oh. No. I know where they are. Where I sent them. Trouble is waiting for them."

She began to shake violently before fainting suddenly with the blackness from her feathers disappearing completely.

Hiccup, Merida and Toothless were still nowhere to be seen. The Once-ler sighed and mentioned that they should be getting back. Mavis agreed and they carried Toothiana through the nearest tree - a path that led to the North Pole once again.

\* \* \*

><p><strong>SORRY for not updating in ages! School's been annoying and I haven't found time to write. I'll try to update the next chapter ASAP but please hang on.<strong>

\*\*Thank you for reading and reviewing once again! Your ideas and feedback are very helpful to me! \*\*

\*\*So yeah, as you can see the next chapter is set up for a little bit of Mericcup! \_Hooray!\_ Finally. :P\*\*

End  
file.